

IN SOCIETY'S REALM

MATTERS THAT ENGAGE THE ATTENTION OF FASHIONABLE FOLK.

SEASON NOT YET FAIRLY OPEN

A German, a Reception, and a Tea the Features of the Past Week—Literary and Dancing Classes—Weddings—Personal Notes.

This past week there were three considerable entertainments in Richmond. That is not very ecstatic gaiety for such socially gifted people as Richmond's citizens, but a half a loaf is always better than none, and a large German, a large tea, and a reception showed that the householders have finished painting their front steps and papering their walls, and are turning their minds to social matters.

It is expected that the invitations to Mrs. James A. Welch's dance class will be sent out this week, and there is much interest in prominent circles over the continuation of Mrs. Welch's entertainments. The opinion that this is to be an unusually pleasant winter for Richmond society people is chiefly based on the knowledge that the delightfully informal dances which were given last spring at the Jefferson, under the auspices of the Dance Class are to be repeated this winter.

The class admits ladies and gentlemen, both married and single, and, though of course, some ladies come with escorts, all may have the privilege of being independent members of the club. In New York, where the dancing class idea first originated, this feature of the girls' being equal members with the men was found to be very advantageous, because the burden of general entertaining always falls heaviest on the men after the debutantes' first rush of dances and dinners. The elegant surroundings of the Richmond Palace, where the Jefferson, the brilliant hall-room, the galleries, the alcove parlors, and the rotunda with its groups of palms and tree ferns, are another great advantage, and, of course, the very necessary, though not the "human face, divine," will not be lacking. The list of chaperones includes ten of the leaders in Richmond society: Mrs. John Dunlop, Mrs. George Ross, Mrs. David Tennant, Mrs. O. S. Crenshaw, Mrs. Joseph A. Bell, Mrs. Ed. C. Mayo, Mrs. Alexander Cameron, Mrs. Robert Morton, Mrs. A. S. Binford, and Mrs. Hunter McGuire. Several of the distinguished members of Richmond's masculine society will also be present, and the dancing class at each of the dances. These are: Colonel J. Lane Stern, Mr. Ed. C. Mayo, Mr. William H. Palmer, Jr., Mr. William Ferguson, Mr. William H. Grant, Jr., Mr. Charles Evelyn Smith, and Mr. Richard Page.

The first dance, not German, will be given on Monday, the 26th of November, and alternating with the Richmond German Club, will take place thereafter every two weeks until the 26th of February, two days before Ash Wednesday.

The Junior Cotillon Class opened with flying colors on Friday night. Miss Robbins, the graceful young manager of the class, has established it now as one of the most important social organizations of the city. Last week, a regular class, was more successful than the dance with which the class opened, and the Germans this year promise to be more successful than the closing German in the season gone by. The roll of names includes many newcomers, who will be regular assistants at the class. The music will be even better than last year, and each German will be graced by the presence of some of the most distinguished women in Richmond society. Among the chaperones are: Mrs. George Ross, Mrs. O. S. Crenshaw, Mrs. Joseph A. Bell, Mrs. Ed. C. Mayo, Mrs. Alexander Cameron, Mrs. Robert Morton, Mrs. A. S. Binford, and Mrs. Hunter McGuire.

There was a large gathering at the cotillon at Belvidere Hall. Mr. Adolphus Blair led the German with his usual skill, and all present seemed to be in a German humor, and looked to be in a German humor, and danced their lightest, while, by the way, is saying a good deal, since there are a great many fine dancers at the Junior Cotillon Class. Among those present were Misses Helen Moseley, Morgan, Estelle de Sausse, Nannie and Bessie Dunlop, Florence Parker, Marie and Mabel Jennings, Ellen Bagby, Nannie Cooke, Sally Randolph, Ellie Carmichael, Elie and Amy Werth, Anne Drewry, Henningham Spillman, and Elizabeth Brander, with Messrs. Mason White, Fairley Cooke, Lewis Harvill, William Harvie, William de Sausse, Donald Boyd, Frank Hill, Edward Benson, Hugh Stockell, of Petersburg; Stewart Cooke, Crenshaw Chamberlayne; John Jones, of Gloucester; Stafford Parker, Cary Carroll, Tom Marshall, Taylor Brook, H. Wertenbaker, and Corydon Hobson. Two weeks from now it is expected that several of this year's debutantes will appear at the cotillon class.

An announcement which has created widespread interest on account of the possibility of the two persons most concerned, is the news that Mr. Warren H. Mercer and Miss Florine Parker Parrish are to be married in the near future. The ceremony will be performed in the Second Presbyterian church at 4 P. M., by Mr. Dr. Moses D. Hoge. The bride party includes the bride's sister and maid of honor, Miss Grace Parrish; the groom's brother and best man, Mr. Hugh Mercer, and the groomsmen—Messrs. Ernest Conner, Stewart Woodard, William M. Parrish, Robert Payne, Aylett Bagby of Newport News, and Dr. David McCaw. The bride is a charming member of the well-known old Goochland Parrish family. The groom is one of the clever young lawyers of this city.

There was a tea given Tuesday afternoon by the Daughters of the Confederacy to introduce their newly-elected State president, Mrs. McCulloch, of Staunton. Mrs. McCulloch is one of Virginia's most charming women, and, with other daughters, made the tea a very pleasantly memorable occasion. Light refreshments were served by three pretty little Hebes—Misses Louise Purcell and Cleland and Nora Randolph. Mrs. Norman Randolph read a paper, written with the usual skill and enthusiasm for the Confederacy.

Among the guests present were Mrs. Dabney Carr, Mrs. Austin Brockenbrough, Mrs. Frank Crump, Miss Jessie Crump, Misses Annie, Smith, and others.

Miss Maria Blair returned to Richmond Thursday evening, having spent more than eight months in Europe. Her many friends will be glad to know that she will speedily resume her classes. The first meeting of the Shakespeare class will be on Tuesday, October 26, in the afternoon, at 4:30 o'clock, at the Mount Vernon, and the tourists' class will begin Thursday, October 30. While away Miss Blair has gathered new material, which will add greatly to the interest of the Shakespeare class.

The tourists' class is not a preparation for another trip to Europe, but in it Miss Blair will dwell chiefly on the great painters of the world, their environment, their work, their influence. In giving this history, she will furnish connecting links, and thus give most interesting sketches of the world's history. Years of study and observation on painters, and the foundation for these lectures have been completed the structure.

A brilliant ball is to be given next Tuesday night at the Jefferson Club, to Mrs. James A. Welch's dance class.

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"When I went up to the door, with the intention of passing in, that doorkeeper stopped me. I expected that, and explained to him that my name was Atkinson, and that I was one of the speakers for the evening."

"Where's your ticket?" he asked. "I have no ticket," I replied. "Are you a veteran?" was his next question.

"No, I am not, but it is only because I was too young to go into the army. I did not know my own age and could not get a uniform," I told him.

"Well, if you are not a veteran, you can't get in here without a ticket," he said. "I have no ticket," I said. "I haven't got a ticket, don't know where to get one, and haven't time to get one even if I knew where to go."

"You can get a ticket easy enough if you are entitled to one by going over to headquarters at Fourth and Race streets," he said.

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(Stonewall Jackson and the American Civil War.) By Lieutenant-Colonel Henderson.

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